

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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Z 161519Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 2517

AMEMBASSY PARIS FLASH

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LUSAKA 2456

EXDIS

FOR AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLELE

PARIS FOR THE SECRETARY

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR PINT MILI AO ZA CG

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN'S STATEMENT ON US ARMS ASSISTANCE
TO ANGOLA THROUGH ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE

1. UNDER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AMBASSADOR MANDA
SUMMONED ME TO FOREIGN OFFICE AT 1615 DECEMBER 16 FOR EXPLANATION
OF NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE OF DEC 15 REPORTING ON AMB MOYNIHAN'S
NBC SUNDAY INTERVIEW IN WHICH HE REPORTEDLY SAID US WAS ASSIST-
ING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN ANGOLA BY SHIPMENT OF ARMS THROUGH
ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE. MANDA SAID IF STATEMENT NOT RPT NOT TRUE,
AMB MOYNIHAN WOULD HAVE DENIED IT.

2. IN FOLLOW-ON CONVERSATION AT MINISTRY, MANDA SAID HE WAS
STUNNED BY TELEX REPORT FROM ZAMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN KAMANA
FOLLOWED UP BY TELECON WITH HIM REGARDING ALLEGATION. KAMANA
SAID AS IT APPEARED TO BE BILATERAL MATTER, HE HAD REFERRED
IT TO AMB MWALE IN WASHINGTON. IN CHECKING WITH DEPARTMENT,
REGARDING HIS INTENTION TO ISSUE DENIAL, MWALE WAS TOLD BY
UNIDENTIFIED OFFICIAL THAT BEFORE MWALE ATTEMPTED TO DENY MOY-
NIHAN'S STATEMENT "HE HAD BETTER CHECK WITH STATE HOUSE IN

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LUSAKA".

3. I TOLD AMB MANDA THAT I FIRST HEARD THIS ALLEGATION EVENING BEFORE AT DINNER AT RESIDENCE WHEN CZECH AMB SAID HE HAD HEARD MOYNIHAN'S STATEMENT ABOUT US ARMS THROUGH ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE ON BBC THAT MORNING. I TOLD MANDA I HAD TOLD CZECH AMB I KNEW NOTHING ABOUT STATEMENT REGARDED IT A MISQUOTATION AND NOT RPT NOT TRUE. BUT WOULD TRY TO GET THE FACTS.

4. MANDA SAID THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN LUSAKA SHOULD KNOW WHETHER SUCH A STATEMENT WAS TRUE OR FALSE AND THAT IS WHY HE CALLED ME. I SAID I KNEW NOTHING ABOUT STATEMENT BUT DOUBTED IT WAS TRUE. MANDA WAS OBVIOUSLY TROUBLED BECAUSE OF REFERENCE TO STATE HOUSE. I ASKED HIM IF HE HAD FOLLOWED UP SUGGESTION MADE TO MWALE. HE SAID HE COULD NOT BECAUSE PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT MARK CHONA WAS NOT IN LUSAKA (HE IS WITH FONMIN BANDA IN PARIS FOR CIEC MEETING).

5. MANDA ASKED ME ON URGENT BASIS TO SEEK OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OR DENIAL OF STORY; MEANWHILE HE IS HOLDING OFF ON REFERRAL OF MATTER TO STATE HOUSE. PRESIDENT KAUNDA JUST RETURNED FROM NAIROBI AT 1300 DECEMBER 16.

6. USIS WIRELESS FILE NO. 240 OF DEC 15 IN NEWS ROUND UP SECTION REFERRAL TO AMB MOYNIHAN'S TV INTERVIEW OF DEC 14 MAKES NO RPT NO MENTION OF HIS SAYING US ARMS WERE GOING TO ANGOLA THROUGH ZAMBIA AND ZAIRE.

7. URGENTLY REQUEST GUIDANCE.
WILKOWSKI

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